

**REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully submitted.

In the present Ex Parte Quayle Action, the Examiner first objected to the specification, and particularly the Abstract of the Disclosure as comprising informalities and required that the Abstract be placed in compliance with M.P.E.P. §608.01(b). Applicants delete the Abstract as originally filed and replace it with a new Abstract of the Disclosure.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter the new Abstract provided herein.

Further, the Examiner objected to particular informalities in Claims 1-4, 7, 14 and 18.

The Examiner did indicate that Claims 1-4, 7, 14 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections.

Applicants, in response, hereby amend each of Claims 1-3 and 14 in the manner as suggested by the Examiner.

Respectfully, the Examiner's indication of an informality in Claim 4 appears to applicants as an error, and respectfully no action is taken with respect to Claim 4.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 7, and 18, applicants have amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to correct the instance of "random secret key". However, with respect to the other minor informality indicated by the Examiner, applicants have amended these claims to set forth the message "to be received" within the network at a second node (instead of "from the first" node). The reasoning behind this is to avoid a new antecedent issue engendered by removing the limitation "to a second" as the Examiner suggested.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter Applicants alternative amendment to Claims 7 and 18 instead of the amendment as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that she call applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully Submitted,



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